

Message Text

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73/50

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 NRC-05 ERDA-05

ERDE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 OC-05 CCO-00 SS-15 SP-02

FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

EB-07 /100 W

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P R 16115Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9265

INFO AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 3861

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (T E X T)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH; AR

SUBJECT: NRC ANNOUNCEMENT ON RECYCLED PLUTONIUM IN WATER REACTORS

REFS: A. STATE 108701; B. STATE 109094

1. PURSUANT REFTEL B EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE TRANSMITTED KEY
PORTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT REFTEL A ON MAY 13 AND
RECEIVED COMMENTS FROM CNEN PRESIDENT HERVASIO DE
CARVALHO AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE ANNOUNCEMENT CERTAINLY MEANS FURTHER DELAYS IN
RESOLVING THE DECISION ON THE CONDITIONAL URANIUM ENRICH-
MENT CONTRACTS AND AS SUCH IS BAD NEWS FOR BRAZIL AND FOR U.S./
BRAZIL RELATIONS. IT CAN ONLY REINFORCE THE NEED FOR BRAZIL
TO TURN TO OTHER SOURCES FOR NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND
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TECHNOLOGY.

(B) BRAZIL HAD BEEN IN SIXTH PLACE ON THE CONDITIONAL CONTRACT LIST AND HAD EXPECTED THAT THE DELAYS WHICH ARE OCCURRING IN THE INSTALLATION OF US POWER PLANTS, AND THE DEFERMENT OF US ENRICHED URANIUM NEEDS WOULD ENABLE IT TO MOVE UP AND BE OFFERED FIRM CONTRACTS. THE ANNOUNCEMENT ACCENTUATES THE NEED FOR THIS TO TAKE PLACE. BRAZIL IS PREPARED TO FULFILL ITS PART OF THE MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS INCURRED BY THE TWO COUNTRIES AND HAS BEEN AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE DRAFT AMENDED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION TO COMPLETE THIS ASPECT OF THE SUPPLY CONDITIONS. NO PROBLEMS ARE ANTICIPATED IN BRAZIL'S ACCEPTING THE TERMS OF A STANDARD ERDA AGREEMENT SINCE BRAZIL IS NO LONGER DEPENDENT ON THE US FOR THE CONTROVERSIAL FUEL CYCLE TECHNOLOGY.

(C) THE US DECISION ON PLUTONIUM RECYCLE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BRAZIL AT THIS TIME. BRAZIL WILL MAKE ITS OWN DECISION ON PLUTONIUM RECYCLE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME BASED ON WORLD-WIDE INFORMATION EXISTING THEN.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WISHES ALL FUTURE TELE-GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS AND AIRGRAMS DEALING WITH NUCLEAR MATTERS, A MATTER OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO US-BRAZIL RELATIONS TO BE SENT ACTION EMBASSY BRASILIA INFO CONGEN RIO.
CRIMMINS

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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